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IN DEFENCE OF THE COASTLINE
GROUPS RAMP UP PIPELINE ASSAULT {page 4}

THE HOLIDAYS ARE NUTS
CHILI SPICED NUTS A PERFECT SNACK {page 28}

UNDRESS FOR SUCCESS
NUDE SCENES LURE OSCARS
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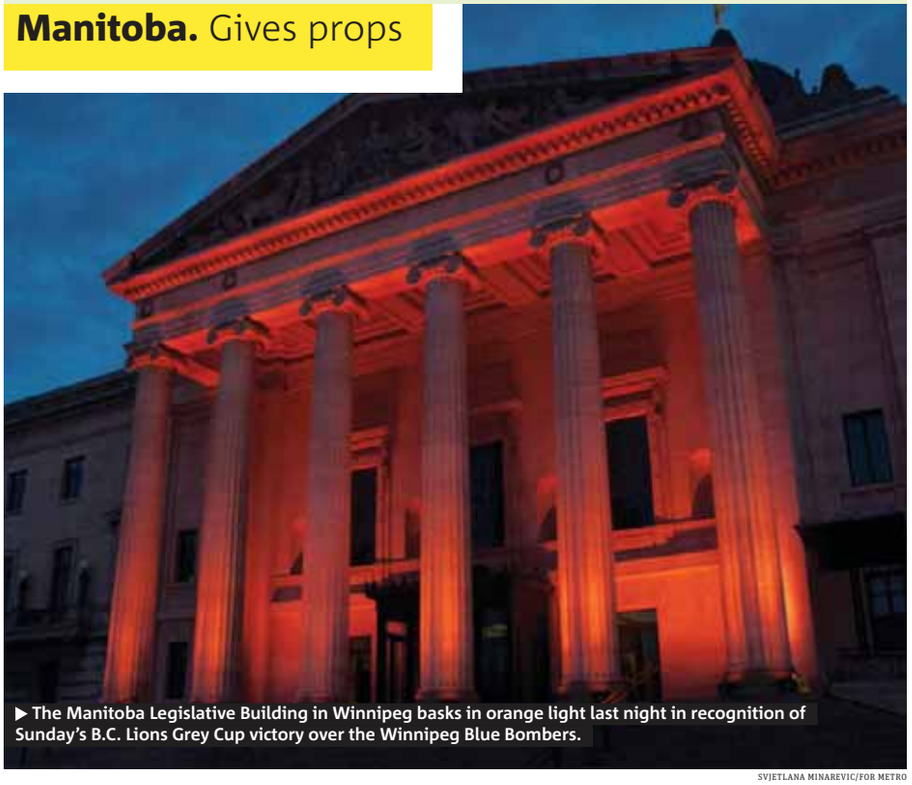

▶ The Manitoba Legislative Building in Winnipeg basks in orange light last night in recognition of Sunday's B.C. Lions Grey Cup victory over the Winnipeg Blue Bombers.

SVJETLANA MINAREVIC/FOR METRO

'Peg acknowledges Lions' supremacy

The choice of orange was the result of a bet between Manitoba Premier Greg Selinger and B.C. Premier Christy Clark. The wager included a shipment of bison meat and beer. A second wager between the mayors of Winnipeg and Vancouver will see Winnipeg Mayor Sam Katz standing at a major intersection in Vancouver clad in a Leos jersey. Lions fans are invited to a free Grey Cup celebration at BC Place tonight. Doors open at 5 p.m.

ICBC seeks higher fees for drivers

- Increase would be an average $30 per year
- Blames lower investment returns

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

ICBC wants to raise rates for B.C. drivers next year to cover slumping revenue and cost of claims, the company announced yesterday.

The Crown Corporation will file an application to the B.C. Utilities Commission in the next few days for rates to go up an average of $30 per customer, CEO Jon Schubert said in a statement.

"We have seen increasing pressure, in particular, from bodily injury costs," Schubert said. "This year, bodily injury costs will be approximately $1.7 billion — $350 million more than five years ago. This increase in costs is not sustainable without a rate increase."

The company's claim costs increased by $200 million for the first nine months of the year, he added.

The corporation's investment income dropped by $38 million compared to 2010 and the loss could grow to $90 million by the end of the year, Schubert warned.

ICBC also blames the impact of worldwide economic and capital market conditions.

"We've worked very hard to keep auto insurance rates as low as possible and we've had some successes," Schubert said.

"We have not increased our rates since 2007 and there have been a number of rate decreases during that time. However, we face a different reality today but we remain committed to providing our customers with the best coverage at the lowest possible price."

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Report cards not essential: LRB

B.C. teachers do not have to fill out report cards and will not be fined for not performing non-essential services as part of their job action, the province's labour board ruled yesterday.

The B.C. Public School Employers' Association applied in October to the B.C. Labour Relations Board to require teachers to prepare report cards and refund 15 per cent of their salaries and benefits to school districts.

However, adjudicator Michael Fleming dismissed the application, noting that both parties agreed to an essential-services order and that B.C. Teachers' Federation members were in full compliance.

METRO

High-profile B.C. lawyer charged after fight

A B.C. lawyer who defended one of the men accused in the Air India terror bombings has been charged in an altercation on a downtown Vancouver street last week.

Terry Edward Laliberte, 67, is facing two counts of assault in an incident on Nov. 21.

Police say witnesses reported the driver of a car got out of his vehicle and confronted a women who had been chasing the car on foot.

Police say two men were assaulted when they came to the aid of the woman.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

▶ Donald MacPherson, director of the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition, says it's time for a public health approach to alcohol, tobacco, prescription and illegal substances.

New group not high on drug prohibition

- Coalition calls for evidence- and rights-based approach to drug policy
- Prince of Pot's wife pleased that more are on board to end prohibition

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

A new coalition is calling for a change in Canada's "failed" approach to alcohol, tobacco and drug controls.

Donald MacPherson, director of the Canadian Drug Policy Coalition that was formed in March and launched yesterday in Vancouver, said the country should focus on building a strong health, social and human-rights approach to drug-policy issues.

"This is where our energy and resources should be going, not towards building prisons and criminalizing young people and other marginalized population," he said.

Four former Vancouver mayors recently lent their support to Stop the Violence B.C., a coalition pushing for the end of pot prohibition in Canada.

The Health Officers' Council of B.C. (HOC) also released a study yesterday, titled Public Health Perspectives for Regulation Psychoactive Substances, which highlights the need for action on public-health-oriented regulation of psychoactive substances.

The HOC's Dr. John Carsley said he hopes the paper will stimulate public and governmental discussions to make changes to the current system.

"You can reduce the harm from psychoactive substances by creating a regulatory model that puts controls on them without necessarily criminalizing them and limits both the excesses of criminalization and over-promotion," Carsley said, adding that a public-health approach can lead to less substance use and enormous savings for the penal and health system.

Jodie Emery, wife of activist Marc Emery, said it's great to see professionals, academics and even politicians joining in the call to end prohibition.

"When people are concerned about gangsters, grow-ops and young people getting hold of drugs, all of those are caused not by drugs existing, but they're caused by drugs being kept illegal and drug prohibition," she said. "The problems associated with drugs ... are actually dealt with better by changing the laws to be more progressive, to move away from punishment and law enforcement and towards education and crime prevention."

1 news

Only one in four Americans with the AIDS virus has the infection under control with medications, U.S. federal health officials say. Scan code for story.

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On the web

November is traditionally a strong month on the markets, says Allan Small, but this year a large sell-off has wiped out all the gains made in October. More at metronews.ca/investing

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Pipeline poses big risk, green groups warn

BRUCE HILL/LIVINGOCEANS.ORG

▶ A tanker sits docked at Prince Rupert.

Environmentalists are ramping up their assault on the controversial Northern Gateway pipeline, arguing the $5.5-billion Enbridge project poses an unacceptable risk to British Columbia's mountain rivers and pristine coastline.

A collection of groups including the Natural Resources Defense Council and the Pembina Institute released a report yesterday claiming the heavy crude from Alberta's oilsands is especially dangerous and the proposed route too treacherous.

"The unprecedented level of support … sends a clear signal to Ottawa that if they're going to be approving this pipeline, it's going to be against the wishes of British Columbians," said Nathan Lemphers of the Pembina Institute.

The pipeline travels through sensitive ecosystems, including major riverways that are home to the province's iconic salmon, and passes through dangerous mountain terrain that are prone to avalanches and rock slides, the report says.

The project will significantly increase tanker traffic along B.C's North Coast, which the report says will further increase the risk of a spill as massive ships navigate the rugged coastal waters.

The report also claims the chemicals used to dilute bitumen before it is transported make it more corrosive than traditional crude, increasing the risk of corrosion along the pipelines and, consequently, making a spill more likely.

Enbridge spokesman Paul Stanway said many of the report's claims — including the suggestion that diluted bitumen is somehow more dangerous, aren't backed up by existing research.

He said groups such as those behind yesterday's report would be opposed regardless of the measures in place to mitigate the risks. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Bright lights in sight

Firefighters unite to set up Bright Nights in Stanley Park ◐ Goal is to reach $200,000 for burn fund ◐ Funds support various burn victim programs

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

▶ Richmond firefighters put up the finishing touches in Stanley Park yesterday for Bright Nights, which begins on Friday.

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

It's that time of the year again, when families can experience a twinkling Christmas wonderland.

Firefighters from across the Lower Mainland, who have volunteered more than 3,500 hours working with park staff, are putting on the finishing touches for Bright Nights in Stanley Park, which starts Friday and runs until Jan. 2.

Ray Boucher with the B.C. Professional Fire Fighters' Burn Fund said families can enjoy the two million lights and animated holiday displays by walking through the forest around Stanley Park's Children's Farmyard or hopping on the miniature train.

"It's great to see all the looks on the kids' faces with their eyes as big as saucers," Boucher said. "They're looking around the lights when they start coming in here with smiles on their faces — mom and dad too. Everybody's really happy to be here."

Last year's event saw 200,000 visits, Boucher added, and their goal is to raise $200,000.

"If everybody donated a dollar each, then we'd have our money and that would be good," he said.

Donations collected at the event and partial proceeds from the train-ticket sales will go to the Burn Fund, which helps support such projects as a burn camp for kids, an adult burn-survivor program and the promotion of Burn Awareness Week.

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CONTRIBUTED

▶ An artist's rendering of a proposed casino at BC Place.

Casino expansion: Unfinished business?

Hot-button issue dominates last council session of term
Mayor wants moratorium rewritten to close loopholes

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

Doubt is swirling around city hall as the possibility of future casino expansion dominated the last session for the current mayor and council.

Marked as "unfinished business" on the agenda, Mayor Gregor Robertson and council approved the transfer of commercial and residential land around BC Place to pave the way for a new two-tower development.

In April, council unanimously shut down Paragon Gaming's application to expand the number of slot machines within the development — ending plans for an Edgewater mega-casino at the site.

The Edgewater Casino is still able to relocate to the planned development as is, but a moratorium was placed to end all casino expansion in the City of Vancouver.

Or so council thought.

The moratorium contains a number of conditions — such as proof of public support and evidence that the B.C. Lottery Corporation is following best practices in security and enforcement — that could trigger a new expansion request if met.

And with the Edgewater moving into a space designed for a mega-casino, many councillors wondered yesterday if it was just a matter of time before a new application is made.

"We can't close the door permanently on casino expansion," admitted Robertson.

But the mayor reaffirmed that expansion plans won't be tolerated under his watch, and suggested the city change the wording of the moratorium to eliminate any loopholes.

"We are definitely looking on rewording the moratorium so it's very clear there will not be a proposal coming forward," he said. "As long as I'm mayor, there will be no expansion of gambling. We don't want to waste time and money considering that for the next three years."

Vancouver Not Vegas advocate Sandy Garossino, who unsuccessfully ran as an independent in the last election, is concerned this council has "let the door wide open" for a future mega-casino.

"It's clear two football fields of casino floor have been approved. The only question is how many slot machines will go into that facility," she said.

"By approving the physical space at the level (Paragon) applied for, they have really kicked the ball down the field. Council can't limit the motions of a future council."

NPA Coun. Suzanne Anton accused Vision Vancouver of a major flip-flop for attacking its own moratorium.

"April's vote left the door open for an expanded casino. Nothing has changed except that the Vision team is saying they reject their own vote," Anton said, her final parting shot at council.

Consultant Brett McGregor said he expects Paragon to come back to PavCo with a revised proposal in the next few months that adheres to the moratorium on expansion.

Ladner at odds with NPA tactics

JEFF HODSON/METRO FILE

▶ Former NPA Coun. Peter Ladner

It wasn't just the public that was put off by the Non-Partisan Association's (NPA) negative campaigning in the municipal election.

Former NPA councillor and mayoral candidate Peter Ladner wrote a searing editorial in Business in Vancouver yesterday accusing his former party of turning the election into a "blood sport."

"It's time for the NPA to get out a huge vacuum and suck up all the people who think every political opponent is evil, and that job No. 1 is to eliminate them," Ladner writes.

"Show us a vision for the city that's proactive, not reactive, please."

MATT KIELTYKA

Councillors bid farewell

MATT KIELTYKA/METRO

▶ Suzanne Anton speaks to media for the last time as a city councillor yesterday.

MATT KIELTYKA
@METRONEWS.CA

The four outgoing Vancouver city councillors were praised for their service during their last council session yesterday.

Suzanne Anton, Ellen Woodsworth and George Chow were each given a chance to say goodbye to fellow councillors, city staff and the public as their three-year terms came to an end.

As they bid farewell, the trio reaffirmed their commitment to public service.

"I came into politics because I was a community advocate and I don't think I'll ever change that," said Anton, who ran unsuccessfully for mayor against Gregor Robertson after two stints as councillor and one as a park board commissioner.

Chow made his intentions known when he announced he would not seek re-election so he could take a run at provincial politics.

He lost the NDP nomination for Vancouver-Fraserview to Gabriel Yiu earlier this month but he hasn't given up just yet.

"I may go into provincial politics, but at this point in time it's still early," Chow said. "I will still be involved in the community, particularly in Chinatown because I still think we need a lot of help to get the place going."

Two-term COPE councillor Woodsworth urged the next council to pay attention to aboriginal issues, especially in the Downtown Eastside.

"It's at the heart of what needs to be addressed in this city," she said. "Questions of housing, addiction, racism, sexism. I hope from the bottom of my heart that ... we really do address the questions of the First Nations in our city."

The new-look council begins work Dec. 5.

Joining the incumbents will be Vision's Tony Tang and NPA's George Affleck, Elizabeth Ball and Green Adriane Carr.

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HIGHLIGHTS Bangkok, Chiang Rai, Grand Palace, Klong Tour, Jim Thompson House, Damnoen Saduak Floating Market, Death Railway, Bridge Over the River Kwai, Doi Tung Development Project, Golden Triangle, Chiang Mai, Hall of Opium, Khantoke Dinner and Show, Hill Tribes, Night Market and Maesa Elephant Camp. Roundtrip Bangkok.

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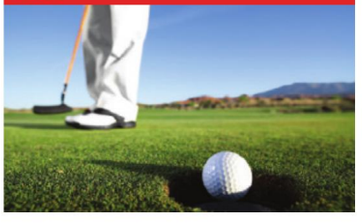
+ taxes & fees $121

INCLUDES accom near theme parks. Price per person based on family of 4. **ADD** 3-day *Disneyland* Resort *Park Hopper* Bonus Ticket from $197/adult, $175/child (ages 3-9).

San Diego
Family Special, Air + 4 Nights — from $379◊ + taxes & fees $143

INCLUDES central accom near attractions. **BONUS** shuttle service to the airport, zoo and Sea World included. Price per person based on family of 4.

USA



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Honolulu Air + 7 Nights — from $589 + taxes & fees $150

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New York City Air + 3 Nights — from $899 + taxes & fees $115

INCLUDES Manhattan accom. **ADD** Broadway tickets to Spiderman from $168.

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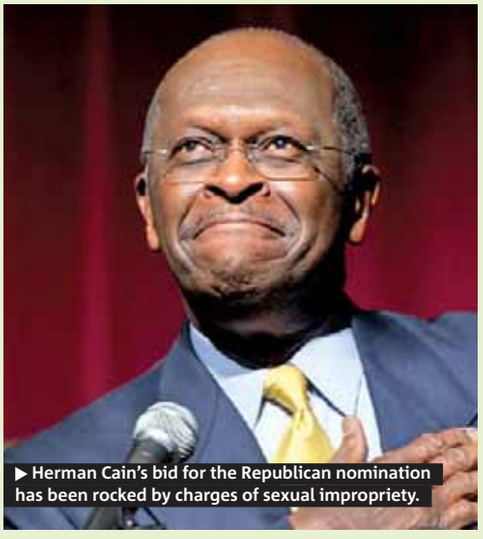

▶ Herman Cain's bid for the Republican nomination has been rocked by charges of sexual impropriety.

CAIN REASSESSING BID

'FOR SOME PEOPLE, YOU'RE GUILTY UNTIL PROVEN INNOCENT'

Herman Cain is rethinking whether to remain in the Republican presidential race in the face of new allegations that he had a 13-year affair with a Georgia woman that ended only eight months ago.

Cain has informed his staff that he is reassessing his decision to continue his bid for the nomination after Monday's allegations by Ginger White.

"It's taken a toll on my wife and family, as you would imagine," Cain said yesterday during a conference call. "Any time you put another cloud of doubt, unfortunately, in the court of public opinion, for some people, you're guilty until proven innocent. And so the public will have to decide whether they believe her or whether they believe me. That's why we're going to give it time, to see what type of response we get from our supporters."

Cain, 65, added he had no intention of dropping out of the race despite the cloud of controversy hanging over his campaign. He has also denied sexually harassing two women who came forward with their own accusations over the past several weeks. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Facebook forced to overhaul privacy policy

New provisions will affect all Facebook users in Canada and around the world Founder admits the company 'made a bunch of mistakes'

Social networking giant Facebook agreed yesterday to settle eight administrative complaints related to privacy brought forward by the U.S. Federal Trade Commission in Washington, D.C.

The FTC accused Facebook of making deceptive privacy claims dating back several years.

"Facebook is obligated to keep the promises about privacy that it makes to its hundreds of millions of users," FTC chair Jon Leibowitz said yesterday. "Facebook's innovation does not have to come at the expense of consumer privacy. The FTC action will ensure it will not."

"A major principle of privacy by design is respect for user privacy and this includes offering strong privacy defaults, appropriate notice and consent. I say keep it user-centric, and the FTC settlement will make sure that this happens."

ANN CAVOUKIAN, ONTARIO INFORMATION AND PRIVACY COMMISSIONER, WHO HAS EXPRESSED CONCERNS OVER CHANGES TO FACEBOOK IN RECENT YEARS

▶ Facebook is settling with the U.S. Federal Trade Commission over charges it deceived consumers over privacy.

Facebook founder Mark Zuckerberg addressed the settlement in a statement, saying the company had proactively addressed the FTC complaints but had "made a bunch of mistakes."

The complaints were focused on eight areas, all related to the effectiveness of users' privacy settings.

Commissioners were particularly concerned that the contents of deleted or deactivated Facebook accounts continued to be accessible, and that "friends only" privacy settings still allowed some user data to be accessible to third parties.

The FTC also accused Facebook of not respecting the Safe Harbor Framework governing the transfer of data between the United States and the European Union.

Yesterday's settlement includes provisions that Facebook subject its privacy practices to independent third-party auditors every other year, for the next 20 years.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

New rules

Besides the regular audits, Facebook has agreed to:

- **Stop misrepresenting** the privacy of users' personal information.
- **Obtain users'** express consent before making changes to privacy preferences.
- **Block access** to the information 30 days after a user has deleted an account.
- **Develop a** comprehensive privacy program that includes future "development and management of new and existing products and services."

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Nigeria poised to make gay marriage, advocacy a crime

Nigeria's Senate has voted to criminalize gay marriage, gay advocacy groups and same-sex public displays of affection, the latest legislation targeting a minority already facing discrimination.

The bill, now much more wide-ranging than its initial draft, must be passed by the House of Representatives and signed by President Goodluck Jonathan before becoming law. However, public-opinion polls show widespread support for the measure.

"Such elements in society should be killed," Sen. Baba-Ahmed Yusuf Datti said, drawing murmurs of support from the gallery.

Gay sex has been banned in Nigeria, a nation of more than 160 million people, since colonial rule by the British. Gays and lesbians face open discrimination and abuse in a country divided by Christians and Muslims who almost uniformly oppose homosexuality.

Under the proposed law, couples who marry could face up to 14 years each in prison. Witnesses or anyone who helps couples marry could be sentenced to 10 years behind bars.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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▶ Prosecutors Svein Holden and Inga Bejer Engh comment on the psychiatric assessment of confessed mass killer Anders Behring Breivik at a news conference in Oslo.

Norway killer insane: Report

Accused 'insulted' by psychiatric evaluation deeming him unfit for trial

Confessed mass killer Anders Behring Breivik belongs in psychiatric care instead of prison, prosecutors in Norway said yesterday after a mental evaluation declared him legally insane during a bomb-and-shooting rampage that killed 77 people.

The court-ordered assessment found Breivik psychotic during the July 22 attacks, which would make him mentally unfit for trial.

The report, written by two psychiatrists who spent a total of 36 hours talking to Breivik, will be reviewed by a forensic panel before the Oslo district court makes a ruling on his mental state.

Their conclusions surprised many outside experts and contrasted with earlier comments by the head of the panel, who told AP in late July that it was unlikely that Breivik would be declared insane because the attacks were so carefully planned and executed.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Spy. Verdict

▶ Former lawmaker's aide Ekaterina Zatuliveter, 26, leaves the Special Immigration Appeals Commission in London yesterday.

GARETH FULLER/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Accused 'Russian spy' cleared

A tribunal says Zatuliveter, who was accused of being a Russian spy, can stay in Britain. Zatuliveter was arrested in December on suspicion of using her job in the office of legislator Mike Hancock to pass information to Russian intelligence.

Slain activist sparks debate

An activist who publicly accused police officers of kidnapping his teenage son was shot to death in an attack that instantly fueled Mexico's bitter nationwide debate over crime and corruption.

Corrupt officials were being blamed yesterday by citizen activists who worked with Nepomuceno Moreno in a national anti-crime movement that has been calling for an end to organized crime, police abuse and a military-led government assault on drug cartels.

Moreno, a 56-year-old sidewalk seafood vendor, became one of the most visible faces of Mexico's anti-crime movement after his 18-year-old son Jorge Mario disappeared in July last year.

The prosecutor's office in the northern border state of Sonora told reporters, however, that Moreno had a criminal past and it was that, not activism, which appeared to have led to his death.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Serbia targets gangsters' valuables

EU insists country clamp down on organized crime
Villas, luxury cars, furniture, even gas station seized

MARKO DROBNJAKOVIC/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ In this photo taken on Monday, employees of the Serbian Ministry of Justice stand next to a confiscated Ferrari at a warehouse used to store property confiscated from crimes bosses in Belgrade.

An opulent villa once owned by a drug lord is now home to children on cancer therapy, a drug lab has been turned into a youth centre, and cars used by gangsters are in the hands of the police that chased them.

Serbia's authorities have decided the best way to stop powerful Balkan crimes bosses is to hit where it hurts. So, they're taking away their valuables and putting them to use after years of relative impunity.

The European Union is insisting that the Balkan nation clamp down on organized crime to become a member of the bloc, pressuring officials to take on the powerful force — tycoons, mafia bosses and gangsters with ties to state security services.

In nearly three years, authorities have netted some $500 million from impounding items.

Much of the loot is being used for humanitarian purposes, though other treasures — a white Ferrari with red-leather interiors, lines of jackpot machines and roulette tables — are sitting idle in a multi-story concrete warehouse in Belgrade's industrial zone on the Danube.

Authorities hosting a regional meeting on battling crime yesterday say they are proud of the work, long used in the West, but new in the emerging democracies of the Balkans.

"Serbia and the rest of the region are no longer a safe haven for organized crime," President Boris Tadic told the conference. The government is "waging a systematic war against crime," he added.

Confiscation of property is "a highly efficient tool" in that struggle, noted Jugoslav Stojiljkovic, who oversees the program.

Gangsters, once so powerful they were able to plot the assassination of Serbia's first postwar reformist prime minister Zoran Djindjic, still have tentacles within the political establishment and are still able to get away with many illegal activities, said Tanja Tagirov, a crime analyst for the independent Vreme weekly.

For years, the pro-Western authorities that came to power after the Balkan wars of the 1990s were too weak to seriously tackle the criminal network closely connected to the country's own security services.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Seizures

- Some of the impounded property belonged to the once mighty, such as a fugitive tycoon who owned a cellphone network under late president Slobodan Milosevic and the former general manager of the state power company.
- A notorious Balkan drug lord whose smuggling operations in Latin America were disrupted by U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration agents lost his villas. Leather sofas, high-tech equipment, a home gym, all were sold at auction.
- One of the villas has been converted to host families whose children are receiving cancer therapy in Belgrade. Last week, a villa was handed over to accommodate victims of human trafficking. A small house used for drug manufacturing has been renovated to host youth seminars.
- The convicted mastermind of the Djindjic assassination was left without half of his suburban villa, which is to become a day care centre. His wife and children stay in the other half.

7-seconds myth set straight

KAREN WASTESON
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN LONDON

Men think almost as much about food as sex, but they don't think about sex as often as previously believed, a new study reveals.

"Young people don't think about sex as often as the general popular image suggests — the 'once every seven seconds' is very far off from reality, and the sex differences are not as large as we believe," says Terri Fisher, professor of psychology at Ohio State University and lead author of the study.

She recruited 163 female and 120 male college students between 18 and 25 for the week-long study.

Participants were asked to press a small plastic device every time they thought about sexual stimuli of any kind, fantasies and erotic images. Two control groups recording thoughts of food and sleep were also included.

It turned out men think about sex 19 times a day, and sleep 18 times a day. That is nearly twice as often as women think about sex, but men also think more about food and sleep. Both sexes were very intrigued to learn how often they thought about all three categories.

Men want more sex when they are young and need more food — that could be one possible reason they think about it more frequently.

However, that doesn't account for the sleep factor as they don't need more sleep, says Fisher.

Whale. Hoisted

▶ Orca Morgan is hoisted by crane into a container on a truck at the Dolfinarium in Harderwijk, Netherlands, early yesterday.

BAS CZERWINSKI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Whale of a trip for orca

A Dutch dolphin park loaded a young killer whale into a container on a truck ahead of her transfer by plane to amusement park Loro Parque on the Spanish island of Tenerife yesterday after conservationists lost a legal battle to have her released.

Trial for magazine that doctored goddess' image

A German magazine has gone on trial in Athens on defamation charges for publishing a doctored image of an ancient Greek goddess on its cover raising her middle finger to Europeans.

Yesterday judges rejected bids by the prosecution and defence lawyers to dismiss charges against the publisher of Focus weekly and 12 of its journalists. All thirteen have been formally accused of insulting a national symbol. Focus enraged many in debt-crippled Greece with its February 2010 cover that showed the iconic Venus de Milo statue, draped in a Greek flag and making the lewd gesture next to the headline "Cheats in the European family."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Charges

The charges, which carry a maximum two-year prison sentence, followed a complaint by a group of Greek lawyers.

Hunt on for Christmas tree thief

$50 The centre's owner says the trees are worth $50 each.

Police in a New Hampshire city are looking for the Grinch who stole about 20 Christmas trees from a stand on Thanksgiving Day.

David Gouette of Maggie D's Garden Center tells The Laconia Daily Sun someone made off with his biggest and best Balsam and Frazier firs on the Thanksgiving holiday. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Emails contradict PM's spokesman

Documents indicate enforcement of change from 'Government of Canada' to 'Harper Government'

Federal public servants were trying to understand the wholesale "Harperization" of Government of Canada communications six months before a spokesman for the prime minister emphatically denied any change in policy or practice.

New documents obtained by The Canadian Press under the Access to Information Act directly contradict published claims by Stephen Harper's chief spokesman that bureaucrats have not been directed to replace the words Government of Canada with "Harper Government" in departmental news releases and backgrounders.

Top former civil servants say the wording change marks a disturbing new trend in the politicization of the bureaucracy — and breaches both communications policy and the civil service ethics policy.

Insiders say ongoing editing skirmishes continue between some government departments with strong leadership and the Privy Council Office, the bureaucracy known as PCO that serves the prime minister.

"The directive we have from the (director general's office) is that if PCO adds the Harper Government reference, then we leave it in," says an email to communications officials at Industry, dated Oct. 5, 2010. "Please proceed with this approach. Sorry — it is what PCO has instructed."

An editor responded: "Given this directive, and with mild distress, I have reinstalled the phrasing."

When the change in nomenclature was revealed last March, Harper's chief spokesman at the time, Dimitri Soudas, wrote to Canadian newspapers asserting "no directive" went out to civil servants. "Nothing could be further from the truth," Harper's spokesman declared. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Occupy. Squat

▶ In this photo taken Nov. 22, an Occupy Seattle protester, who declined to be identified, enters a formerly boarded-up duplex that protesters have taken over in Seattle's Central District.

ELAINE THOMPSON/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Occupiers turn into squatters

To protest foreclosures in the nation's housing market, Occupy Wall Street demonstrators in Seattle, Portland and Oakland have taken up a new tactic: squatting in vacant properties.

Record year for 'bully breed' dogs: Society

Calgary Humane Society officials fear dogs are being bred for criminal purposes in record numbers this year.

Executive director Patricia Cameron said while final numbers are still being tabulated, the society is seeing a greater number of violent and super-sized canines taken in at their shelter.

"They're what we call bully breeds," she said. "We believe there is no bad breed of animal; however, we believe an ultra-large dog — because of their strength and athleticism — require a certain kind of owner and home," Cameron said.

Evidence in the past has indicated these types of dogs may be used in rural Alberta fighting rings and to guard criminal endeavours, namely marijuana grow operations, Cameron said.

Calgary bylaw boss Bill Bruce said his staff is seeing more cross-breeding being conducted between large species to create super-sized dogs, some as heavy as 150 pounds.

"People often don't realize they have got more dog than they can handle," Bruce said. "It's would be like if you just got your learner's permit and you were handed the keys to a turbo (Porsche) Carrera."

Cameron said the society has worked with online sites to prevent the sale of large-breed dogs, but more effort is needed. METRO

METRO FILE

▶ Pit bulls and mastiffs are turning up more frequently at the Calgary Humane Society. Its director says these breeds can be used for criminal purposes.

Neglect's effects

The society has seen nearly 500 pit bulls pass through its shelter in the last five years.

- **Many of the dogs have** not been taught basic manners, making them likely to attack if they feel threatened.
- **In May, 30 dehydrated pit** bull terriers were seized from a Calgary operation.

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Countries at odds over green fund at UN climate talks

Global-warming report provides bleak backdrop to Durban conference

International climate negotiators were at odds yesterday on how to raise billions of dollars to help poor countries cope with global warming. A major shipping group is willing to help, endorsing a proposal for a carbon tax on vessels carrying the world's trade.

Details of the tussle over the funding emerged as the UN's weather agency reported that 2011 was tied as the 10th-hottest year since records began in 1850. Arctic sea ice, a barometer for the entire planet, had shrunk to a record low volume, said the World Meteorological Organization.

Putting the final touches on what's known as the Green Climate Fund is a top issue at the 192-party UN climate conference that was in its second day Tuesday in the South African coastal city of Durban, and one of the keys of a strategy to contain greenhouse gas emissions and keep global warming within manageable limits.

The two-week conference is to finalize a plan on managing climate finances, due to scale up to $100 billion annually by 2020.

The International Chamber of Shipping, representing about 80 per cent of the world's merchant marine, joined forces with aid groups Oxfam and WWF International to urge the conference to adopt guidelines for a levy on carbon emissions by ships.

Details of any levy would be worked out by the International Maritime Organization, the UN agency regulating international shipping, the aid groups and the chamber said in a joint statement.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SCHALK VAN ZUYDAM/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A tree is lit up by cyclists generating electricity as part of an exhibit at the climate change conference in Durban, South Africa, yesterday.

$100B

The two-week conference is to finalize a plan on managing climate finances, due to scale up to $100 billion annually by 2020.

More heat than we can handle?

The world temperatures report released yesterday provided a bleak backdrop to negotiators seeking ways to limit pollution blamed for global warming.

2011 has been a year of extreme weather, the World Meteorological Organization reported. Drought in East Africa has left tens of thousands dead; lethal floods submerged large areas of Asia; the United States suffered 14 separate weather catastrophes with damage topping $1 billion each.

"The science is solid and proves unequivocally that the world is warming," said R.D.J. Lengoasa, the WMO's deputy director, adding that human activity is a significant contributor.

News in brief

Militants call for restaurant boycott

A militant youth group loyal to Zimbabwe's president is calling for a boycott of South Africa-based Nando's Chicken for a recent ad that shows Robert Mugabe dining alone at Christmas, his empty table set for departed dictators, including Moammar Gadhafi.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Dementia Care Certificate	✓	✓	✗	✓
Mental Health Care Certificate	✓	✓	✗	✗
Palliative Care Certificate	✓	✓	✗	✗
Slips, Trips and Falls Certificate	✓	✓	✗	✗

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Aussie iPhone too hot to handle

Apple's iPhone is the world's hottest smartphone — and one iPhone in Australia appears to be the hottest of the bunch as it spontaneously began smoking last week.

Regional Australian airline Regional Express described the "mobile phone self-combustion" in a statement, saying an iPhone belonging to a passenger started glowing red and expelling a "significant amount of dense smoke" after a flight from Lismore, Australia, landed in Sydney on Friday.

A photo accompanying the statement showed the shattered, warped back of a recent-model black iPhone.

The airline says a flight attendant extinguished the glow and nobody on the plane was hurt. Regional Express reported the incident to authorities in Australia. Apple says it will co-operate with any investigation.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Mobs storm British embassy in Tehran

VAHID SALEMI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Iranian police officers prevent protesters from entering the British embassy as others stand on the gates, holding a satirized British flag in Tehran yesterday.

Hardline Iranian protesters stormed British diplomatic compounds yesterday, hauling down the Union Jack, torching an embassy vehicle and pelting buildings with petrol bombs in what began as an apparent state-approved show of anger over the latest Western sanctions to punish Tehran for defiance over its nuclear program.

The hours-long assault on the British embassy and a residential complex for staff — in chaotic scenes reminiscent of the seizing of the U.S. embassy in 1979 — could push already frayed diplomatic ties toward the breaking point.

Iran's parliament approved a bill Sunday to downgrade relations with Britain, one of America's closest allies with diplomatic envoys in the Islamic Republic.

Calling yesterday's attack "outrageous and indefensible," British Prime Minister David Cameron said that Iran's failure to defend the embassy and its staff was a disgrace and would have "serious consequences."

He said all embassy staff had been accounted for and praised Britain's ambassador to Iran for handling a "dangerous situation with calm and professionalism."

Sorting out who to blame may be difficult.

The late-afternoon demonstration outside the British Embassy was organized by pro-government groups at universities and Islamic seminaries, and could not have taken place without official sanction.

However, such anti-Western rallies often draw ultraconservative factions such as the basiji, a paramilitary group run by the powerful Revolutionary Guard that is directly controlled by Iran's ruling theocracy.

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Jackson's doctor gets four-year term

Murray will likely serve less than two years in county jail for manslaughter conviction

A judge's stern voice broke the silence of a Los Angeles courtroom: "Money for madness medicine," he said before sentencing Dr. Conrad Murray to the maximum four years behind bars for Michael Jackson's death.

Judge Michael Pastor denounced Murray as a greedy, remorseless physician whose gross negligence killed the King of Pop.

Pastor said Murray sold out his profession for a promised fee of $150,000 a month and accused Murray of committing a "horrific violation of trust" when he agreed to give Jackson a powerful anesthetic every night as an unorthodox cure for insomnia.

Jackson's family said in a statement read in court that they were not seeking revenge but a stiff sentence for Murray that served as a warning to opportunistic doctors. Afterward, they said they were pleased with the judge's sentence.

"We're going to be a family. We're going to move forward. We're going to tour, play the music and miss him," brother Jermaine Jackson said.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Doctor in debt

- Prosecutors cited Murray's statements to advocate that he receive the maximum term. They also want him to pay restitution to the singer's three children — Prince, Paris and Blanket.
- It's unlikely that Murray can pay any sizable sum, as he was deeply in debt when he agreed to serve as Jackson's personal physician for $150,000 a month, and the singer died before Murray received any payment.

MARIO ANZUONI/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Dr. Conrad Murray closes his eyes after he was sentenced for his involuntary manslaughter conviction in the death of Michael Jackson, in Superior Court in Los Angeles yesterday.

Kidnapper sues his hostages

A man who held a Kansas couple hostage in their home while fleeing from authorities is suing them, claiming that they broke an oral contract made when he promised them money in exchange for hiding him from police. The couple has asked a judge to dismiss the suit.

Jesse Dimmick, of suburban Denver, is serving an 11-year sentence after bursting into Jared and Lindsay Rowley's Topeka-area home in September 2009.

The Topeka Capital-Journal reported that Dimmick filed a breach of contract suit in Shawnee County District Court, in response to a suit the Rowleys filed in September seeking $75,000 from him for intruding in their home and causing emotional stress.

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ADVERTISING FEATURE

PAY CLOSE ATTENTION...

Lee Romanov, , Consumer Advocate
President, Income Activator

If your online business has not reached its' full potential and you've been struggling to take it to the next level, almost feeling paralyzed at times, then I'm about to tell you what you can do about it.

As an entrepreneur you're probably very creative and driven to make a lot of money, but if you don't have the flexibility of being both proactive and reactive with your website, then you and your online business are restricted.

Why... because you can't do a thing without your webmaster, while being held hostage by their costs.

Here's one example of a lost opportunity; a big story breaks on the 6 pm news that directly applies to your online business. You should be:

1. Proactive and immediately create new keyword targeted pages focused on online searches driving traffic to your website.

2. Reactive and change your home page content to reflect this breaking news and put up an opt-in form capturing the names and email addresses of visitors wanting to learn more about this topic.

If you can't make those kind of changes to your website yourself, you'll never be able to compete in today's rapidly changing marketplace.

I'm Lee Romanov, and I built a huge Internet business by applying simple techniques such as this and created a database of over 100,000 people that funnelled into my revenue model. I then sold the website to Torstar; owner of the Toronto Star for millions of dollars.

I went on to create a website program for my own use, Income Activator, and I incorporated my marketing techniques of capturing traffic and converting it into revenue, without the need of a programmer or webmaster. I am now making it available to you so you can turn your website into a marketing force. I also built in multiple revenue streams you can activate immediately. It is shockingly easy to do.

I know what I'm talking about and my reputation as a consumer advocate, through my columns in the Globe and Mail should assure you that I deliver what I promise. If you have a website you can attach this program to it or copy your content over to it.

The program is called **IncomeActivator.com**, which anyone can use to build and manage their online business, regardless of their comfort level with computers. If you can type, you can create website pages, opt-in forms, add pictures, videos, affiliate links and activate several proven revenue streams instantly. I also share the marketing strategies I used to build my online businesses along with valuable advice.

I encourage you to go to **IncomeActivator.com** and hear more of what I'm offering. You will need to be proactive with this as I am only making available 2, 100 Income Activator website programs at an introductory price. You will then become part of a unique group of people sharing their knowledge while growing their online business.

I will be making myself available from today until December 12th to answer any questions related to online marketing or Income Activator specifically. I invite you to visit **IncomeActivator.com** now. I'm also giving away one Income Activator website for Free... all you need to do is tell me your best online marketing story.

COLIN PERKEL/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Tooba Mohammad Yahya and her son Hamed Mohammed Shafia leave court in Kingston, Ont., yesterday.

Victim feared husband: Court

Before Rona Mohammad was allegedly drowned, alongside husband's teenaged daughters, she believed she would be killed, friend says

An Afghan woman living in Montreal would not leave home or go to police for fear her abusive husband would kill her, a Kingston, Ont., murder trial heard yesterday.

In her testimony, Fahimah Vorgetts testified how Rona Amir Mohammad grew increasingly desperate in the year before she was found drowned along with her husband's three teen daughters.

"Almost every time she called, she would be crying and crying," Vorgetts testified.

"She said that if she leaves the house, if she goes to the police, her husband would kill her."

Vorgetts, an Afghan women's rights activist who now lives in Virginia, said she tried to persuade Mohammad to leave her husband Mohammad Shafia, who is now a co-accused in the four drowning deaths.

Mohammad said she had no status in Canada, had no documents because her husband kept them all, and worried about being sent back to Afghanistan where his relatives would kill her.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Murder

- **Diba Abdaili Masoomi,** Mohammad's youngest sister, testified how her sister's marriage, relationship to Shafia was good in the beginning.
- **It deteriorated because** she could not have children and he took on a second wife, she said.

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JOHN STILLWELL/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Former News of the World journalist Paul McMullan arrives to give evidence to the Leveson inquiry, Britain's media ethics inquiry in London yesterday.

Defending phone hacking

Ex-tabloid journalist says hacking gets to the truth

A former News of the World journalist made a robust defence of phone hacking, telling Britain's media ethics inquiry that eavesdropping on voice mails was a "perfectly acceptable tool" to help journalists uncover stories.

Paul McMullan said yesterday that hacking was common at the now-defunct tabloid, describing how journalists traded the phone details of celebrities.

McMullan made headlines this year when he was secretly taped by actor Hugh Grant claiming phone hacking was widespread at the News of the World and other U.K. newspapers. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

So you can't find the food court? Google it

Google's next frontier in digital mapping will span the world's shopping malls and airports.

An upgrade of Google's mobile mapping service released yesterday includes directions within stores, malls, airports and transit centres in the U.S. and Japan.

The initial index only covers a small fraction of the great indoors, but Google Inc. is hoping that will change as more owners and operators of shopping and transportation hubs submit their indoor floor plans so they can be mapped.

For now, Google's indoor maps can only be viewed on smartphones and tablet computers that run on the company's Android software. That's still a potentially huge audience because more than 550,000 Android-powered devices are activated each day. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

Clicks up for Cyber Monday

A new report says a record number of shoppers made purchases online on the Monday after the Thanksgiving weekend, pushing sales up 33 per cent.

The report from IBM Benchmark says the average order rose 2.6 per cent to $193.24 US on the day known as Cyber Monday, when retailers amp up online promotions. The data says about 80 per cent of retailers offered online deals. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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Market moment

PRICES AS OF 5 P.M. YESTERDAY

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American Airlines in trouble

Bankruptcy means flights may be cut, job losses on the horizon ◗ AMR stockholders will be wiped out

The parent company of American Airlines filed for bankruptcy protection yesterday, seeking relief from crushing debt caused by high fuel prices and expensive labour contracts that its competitors shed years ago.

The company also replaced its CEO. American said its frequent-flier program would be unaffected.

AMR Corp., which owns American, was the only major U.S. airline company that did not file for bankruptcy protection after the Sept. 11 attacks, which caused a deep slump in the industry.

In announcing the bankruptcy filing, AMR said CEO Gerard Arpey, a veteran of the company for almost three decades, had stepped down and was replaced by Thomas W. Horton, the company president.

In a filing with federal bankruptcy court in New York, AMR said it had $29.6 billion in debt and $24.7 billion in assets.

The company will delay the spinoff of its regional airline, American Eagle.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

SETH WENIG/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ An employee works at an American Airlines counter at LaGuardia Airport in New York yesterday.

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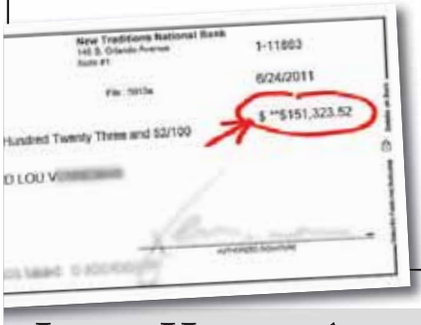

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Extreme Price Reduction
$34,000

Condo in Las Vegas
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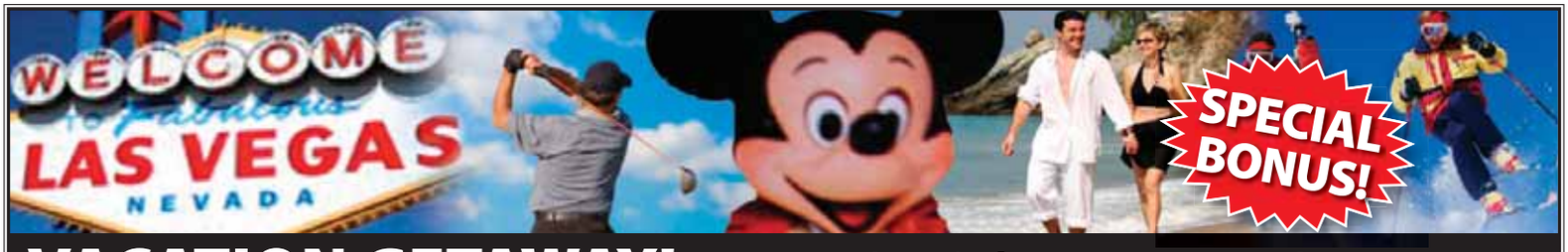
Extreme Price Reduction
$29,900



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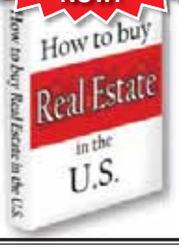

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LOW CONSUMER CONFIDENCE EASY TO SWALLOW WITH BACON JAM

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO

Think you're hip to the hottest consumer trends?

Well, unless you're all over spreadable bacon, My Little Pony, Honey Badger and Pickle Juice, you are nowhere, my friend.

Time to go to school, fool.

Ad Age, the bible of Madison Avenue, released its annual list of 25 hottest brands Monday, and along with obvious choices such as the Chevy Cruze and the HTC smartphone, apparently America can't get enough of Street Skillet Bacon Spread and My Little Pony.

Seattle's Street Skillet's revenue is $3 million so far this year, mainly on the strength of the sale of bacon jam. It's one of Rachel Ray's fall favourite foods.

"Admit it: never in a million years would you consider bacon jam a million-dollar idea. That's why John Henderson is a successful entrepreneur and you aren't. No jam."

Admit it: never in a million years would you consider bacon jam a million-dollar idea. That's why John Henderson is a successful entrepreneur and you aren't. No jam.

I bet you also let Pickle Juice slip through your fingers, too. Not so for Brandon Brooks, who had the vision and foresight to believe that people will buy anything as long as it's sold as an electrolyte replacement. Brooks is planning to blend Pickle Juice with pomegranate to make it taste better, which only goes to prove that a spoonful of sugar helps the Pickle Juice go down.

The list includes a bunch of nostalgia items, like Goldfish, those tasteless little crackers that are hot again, even though they're still tasteless. But after bacon jam and Pickle Juice, that's probably a good thing.

Then there's the inexplicable rebirth of My Little Pony, the foremost mania of my daughter when she was a little girl, some 25 years ago. I could never figure out why she would brush Her Little Pony for hours, yet I could never get her to brush the dog. I assume My Little Pony smelled better.

What's really weird is that the latest craze is being driven by an audience of adolescent and adult males called "bronies." They have their own podcast called Bronyville and their own New York convention called BroNYCon. The My Little Pony website has 71 million hits.

As weird as all of the above are, topping the list is the Honey Badger, which started as a bit player in a National Geographic special and has morphed into the Tasmanian Devil of the 21st century. He's so bad, he eats venom-spitting cobras alive and braves thousands of bee stings to eat their larvae. He's now the spokesvermin for Wonderful Pistachios, which he cracks by whacking them with a snake.

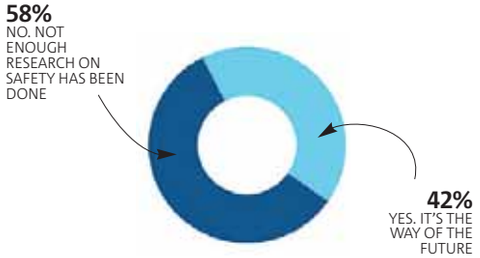
Don't believe me. Check him out on YouTube, where he has 23 million hits, but he don't care.

He's just bad.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Should schools become Wi-Fi hotspots?



Local tweets

- **@jonnystaub:** Please mouth work today! I just said "Gay Cup" on the air by accident #GreyCup @BCLions big celebration tmrw 6p-8p @BCPlace
- **@Sports_Closet:** #Lions #GreyCup champs hats and t-shirts are now in stock.
- **@BCTravelGuy:** The week long trip to Vancouver for #greycup is over, time to head home, it was a good time!
- **@UrbanScoutMag:** It's nice to have the #GreyCup home again. Heard the Bombers said it broke their hearts not to bring it to 'toba, but it's on our mantle.
- **@GOLTVLee:** Still laughing at this Kapp and Mosca fight at #GreyCup. All we were missing was Sweet Daddy Siki! tinyurl.com/cn6bhjo
- **@WendyLJackson:** I'm glad I'm not the only one dismayed by the display of militarism & nationalism at Grey Cup. bit.ly/tUY7kA #cdnpoli #greycup
- **@canucksfreak:** Let's see: No NHL games on Thursday when NFL games are on. However nearly half Canada's teams are playing during #GreyCup? #C'monman #NHL

DYRK DANIELS/SOLENT NEWS/REX FEATURES

Daily Zoom

They call it 'Kitten Love'

Sharing a tender tiger moment

USA. "The little girl was so excited that she started clapping," says photographer Dyrk Daniels, who captured this moment at the Cougar Mountain Zoo in Issaquah, Wash. Golden Bengal tiger Taj walked to the glass, put his right paw up against it where the girl's hand was and bowed his head. MWN

"During my 27 years of working with tigers, I have never seen anything like it before."

RON TILSON, INTERNATIONAL TIGER EXPERT, MINNESOTA ZOO

Instead of 'Ahh!' it was 'Aww!'

RECOLLECTION. Daniels, 47, describes this chance occurrence at the zoo, saying he didn't expect such tenderness from the predatory kitty. "I noticed that Taj had taken an interest in the girl and was heading towards her. I thought for certain that the little girl would need therapy after the encounter." MWN

In the cat's eyes, child is a 'snack'

INSTINCT. This meeting between baby and 168 kg cat may seem cute, but typical human-tiger get-togethers are no fun, specialist Ron Tilson says. "Seeing a young child elicits a tiger's predatory instinct. It begins to follow the child closely, hoping to get a 'snack.' When it gets a chance, it will take it!" MWN

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‘They want to see naked bodies’

Helen Mirren got it right when she said ‘flesh sells’ Here’s to the many actors who have gone without a stitch — all in the name of art, of course

IN FOCUS

RICHARD CROUSE
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

A website called Mr. Skin notes that Helen Mirren is the only celebrity to appear nude on screen in five different decades.

The Oscar winner became the first British actress to appear in the buff in a mainstream film in 1969, when she was just 24 years old.

On her revealing scene in Age of Consent she said, “Flesh sells. People don’t want to see pictures of churches. They want to see naked bodies.”

Since then Mirren has doffed her clothes several more times, and become one of the most acclaimed actresses of her age.

Appearing nude doesn’t appear to have hurt her career with the public or the Academy, which is probably makes Michael Fassbender, the very naked star of this weekend’s Oscar contender Shame, very happy.

CHARLES SYKES/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Michael Fassbender plays a sex addict in Shame. And yes, we get to see his very naked body.

In a performance that bares not only his body but his soul as well, Fassbender might become the most unclothed star to ever be nominated for Best Actor.

But he wouldn’t be the first star to go naked as a jaybird for their craft and take home Oscar gold.

Kate Winslet says there was so much nudity in The Reader, which earned her an Oscar, because the story required it. But, she added in the same interview, she thinks people might be tired of looking at her body.

The first nude film scenes happened almost 100 years before Fassbender drop trou.

In 1915’s Inspiration an actress named Audrey Munson undressed and for the next 20 years stars regularly exposed their hidden talents.

Then came the Hays Code, which banned nudity from the major studios well into the 1960s.

One of the first big stars to break the code was Jayne Mansfield, whose topless role in Promises! Promises! landed her on the Top 10 list of Box Office Attractions for 1963.

Since then many A-listers have taken it off for their art.

Recently both Amanda Seyfried and Julianne Moore stripped in Chloe. Anne Hathaway and Michelle Williams wore their birthday suits in Love and Other Drugs and Blue Valentine respectively.

But it’s not just women exposing themselves.

Gerard Butler let it all hang out in Mrs. Brown and Gamer and Daniel Craig is buck naked in Love is the Devil.

Producer Judd Apatow promises more male nudity in his films.

“It really makes me laugh in this day and age that anyone is troubled by seeing any part of the human body.”

Dear Amazon, will you read my book? It took me years to write; will you take a look?

The much-lauded novel The Sisters Brothers by Vancouver Island native Patrick deWitt has topped Amazon.ca’s Best Books of 2011 list.

Earlier this month, the comic western won a Governor General’s Literary Award and the Rogers Writers’ Trust Fiction Prize.

It also made the Scotiabank Giller Prize and Britain’s Man Booker Prize short lists.

Another novel that made the aforementioned short lists and ended up winning the Giller, Half-Blood Blues by Victoria-based Esi Edugyan, is No. 5 on Amazon.ca’s compilation of the top 100 books of 2011.

Amazon.ca book editors choose the annual list, which also includes American author Erik Larson’s non-fiction title In the Garden of Beasts at No. 2.

Coming in at No. 3. was The Art of Fielding: A Novel by American Chad Harbach, followed by the novel 1Q84 by Japan’s Haruki Murakami.

This list is rounded out by What It’s Like to Go to War by Karl Marlantes; The Marriage Plot by Jeffrey Eugenides; The Cat’s Table by Michael Ondaatje; Steve Jobs by Walter Isaacson; and Hot Art by Joshua Knelman.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHRIS YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Patrick deWitt

2 scene

Scene in brief

A lawsuit filed by owners of a minor league baseball team claims an Illinois city violated its contract and misled the team about the prospect of building a ballpark. Actor Kevin Costner of Field of Dreams is among the owners of the Lake County Fielders. They’ve been battling the city of Zion in northeastern Illinois for months over the team’s collapse this year. Grand Slam Sports and Entertainment’s lawsuit filed last week seeks $10.7 million in damages. The lawsuit names Zion Mayor Lane Harrison and others. Zion City lawyer Scott Puma has declined to comment on the litigation. Lawyer Stephen Boulton represents the team owners. He says they acted in good faith and were caught up in politics and selfish interests.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The Big Bang Theory star Jim Parsons aims for a Broadway return in Harvey

More baby mama drama for Biebs

- Man steps forward claiming to be the father of Mariah Yeater's child
- Robbie Powell was recently charged with drug possession, burglary

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Before the illustrious Mariah Yeater (that's her booking photo, there) accused Justin Bieber of fathering her child, the last time I wrote about a situation so low-rent was during the Levi Johnston baby daddy drama with the Palins.

The latest on the possible Biebs baby?

While the 17-year-old pop star maintains he isn't the father of Yeater's infant son, the man who does claim to be, Robbie Powell, was arrested over the weekend in San Diego, according to Hollyscoop.

The 23-year-old was charged with possession of methamphetamines and drug paraphernalia, as well as three charges of commercial burglary.

He's currently being held on $7,000 bail.

Sources say Powell is looking to go public with his claims that Yeater made up the story about Bieber fathering her child, but he hasn't settled on a media outlet yet.

After all of this, I hope that Bieber is the father just so that poor baby might have a chance at life.

▶ Mariah Yeater

▶ Maggie Gyllenhaal and Peter Sarsgaard.

Maggie Gyllenhaal expecting again

Maggie Gyllenhaal and husband Peter Sarsgaard are gearing up to welcome another member to their family, as Gyllenhaal is pregnant with their second child, according to Life & Style.

"Over Thanksgiving weekend, Maggie was telling friends that she's six months pregnant. Her bump is so big," a source says.

"She's thrilled to be pregnant. She and Peter have wanted another child for a while. They're very happy that they'll have another baby in the house soon."

The couple, who married in 2009, have a 5-year-old daughter, Ramona.

METRO

Celebrity tweets

@NathanFillion

New Yorkers, I love how stylish and beautiful you all are. Have lunch with me?

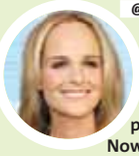
@kerrywashington

I'm completely in love... Ive never felt this way before. Ribbon & Cimarron have stolen my heart... They're horses. :)

@AlecBaldwin

I'm going to change my profile to "Conservative, Christian, gun owner, mom."

@HelenHunt



Got on twitter to shamelessly promote. Now working and uneasy with shameless promotion. Damn.

Gosselin shoots down plastic surgery rumours

Kate Gosselin (new occupation: blogger at CouponCabin.com, continuing her fame-seeker tendencies) is shooting down Internet rumours that she got a facelift.

"With all of the buzz about me having had a facelift, I will confirm that I have not had one (I am only 36!!!). But, I will take all of the talk about how rested and young I look as a compliment! So thanks!" she wrote.

I love Gosselin's "I'm only 36!" excuse for not having plastic surgery, as that didn't stop her from getting a tummy tuck in 2007 and breast implants in 2009. But, to be fair, she is 36 and is a single mom to eight kids.

Girlfriend probably needs all the plastic surgery she can get, under 40 or no.

DOROTHY ROBINSON

▶ Kate Gosselin

Prince Harry peaces out of the U.S.

Prince Harry's adventure in America is over.

"Captain Wales has completed his training in the United States and has returned to the U.K.," says a spokesman from the Naval Air Facility El Centro in El Centro, Calif., according to Us Weekly.

Harry had been training there for the past two months while also enjoying some downtime in Las Vegas, San Diego and Los Angeles.

METRO

Saving the 'Old Square'

A commission has been working since the 1930s to preserve New Orleans' French Quarter

On a muggy autumn New Orleans morning in the French Quarter, away from bawdy Bourbon Street, Natchez residents sat on their stoops drinking rich cafe au lait, reading the newspaper, or watching the passing traffic.

Replace the cars with horses and carriages and the scene could well be from a couple of hundred years ago.

The old city remains vital with a steady mix of residents and small businesses mostly thanks to the Vieux Carre Commission, which regulates changes to the buildings in the small section of New Orleans near the Mississippi River. The commission has control over every part of a building's exterior.

A rotting sill in the back of the house cannot be replaced without permission. A wall can't be painted or a window removed or a roof changed without permission. It's a sore point for some, but the results of such strict control are noticeable.

When the commission was formed during the Great Depression, the 85-square-block Quarter that was laid out by French settlers in 1718 had become a collection of derelict buildings. The idea of preserving an entire area was novel.

"What was considered ahead of time was that up until then American preservation was preservation of individual structures, Mount Vernon for instance," said Walter Gaillas, with the National Trust for Historic Preservation. "Back then, nobody thought of it as, 'Gee, maybe there is another way to preserve a whole community.' Now there are hundreds of commissions like that around the country."

ABUNDANTC/FLICKR

▶ The Vieux Carre Commission regulates all changes — big and small — to the exterior of buildings in the French Quarter.

ABUNDANTC/FLICKR

▶ The famous 'lace' iron work on French Quarter balconies replaced the original iron work in the 1800s.

The French Quarter, also known as the Vieux Carre (Old Square) as it was once called, had fallen on hard times by 1936. Once-grand townhouses were tenements, and city officials were seriously considering tearing down the majestic old buildings that frame Jackson Square — Upper Pontalba and the Cabildo — where the Louisiana Purchase was signed in 1803.

Then along came the Vieux Carre Commission, dedicated to preservation while keeping the area a functioning part of the community.

"The commission is not about keeping things looking pretty but addressing what's appropriate to character and quality of all the parts that make up this neighbourhood," said Vieux Carre Commission director Lary Hesdorffer. "We have the benefit of not being frozen in time."

The idea, Hesdorffer said, is not to return the French Quarter — which is a real neighbourhood with people living there and real businesses operating on its streets — to what it was when it was founded, but to keep the historical presence this generation inherited.

"We have many different styles in the French Quarter from different eras," Hesdorffer said. "We're now treasuring buildings that have been renovated along the way."

As an example, Hesdorffer points to the famous "lace" iron work on French Quarter balconies, which came in the 1800s, replacing the original plain ironwork.

"That sort of layering thing is what makes this historic district particularly rich because we represent some things that date to the colonial period," he said. "But not many are in pure form. Over the years, they've been updated, changed."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Vieux Carre Commission

Nine volunteer members and a staff of five make up the commission. The volunteers are appointed by the mayor and approved by the city council.

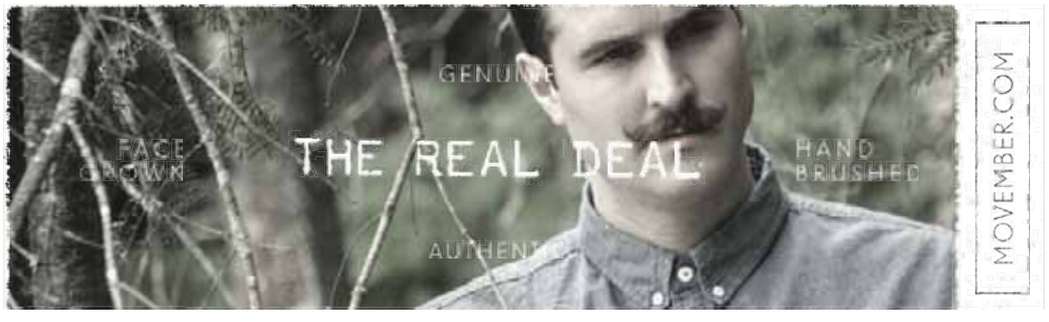
3 life

Travel in brief

A pair of wilderness tour operators in Yukon and a geology-themed park in New Brunswick have won 2011 Canadian Tourism Awards. Nahanni River Adventures and Canadian River Expeditions, both based in Whitehorse, won the award for sustainable tourism.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Caribbean tourist operators expect more visitors, brace for drop in spending



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Go nuts for the holidays

Chili Spiced Nuts serve number of purposes Offer them as a snack or give them as gifts

HOLIDAY HELPER

EMILY RICHARDS
FOOD@METRONEWS.CA

With less than one month until Christmas, the holiday season is in full swing. Each week, we'll provide you with a great make-ahead recipe that you can share as a hostess gift or serve as an entertaining idea for your holiday get-together.

Chili Spiced Nuts

These nuts are perfect to serve up in a little bowl for fingers to dip into while enjoying drinks. You can also pack them up in little gift bags or tins for a gift.

Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) whole unblanched almonds
- 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) walnut halves
- 1 cup (250 mL) shelled pistachios
- 2 tbsp (30 mL) canola oil
- 2 tsp (10 mL) chili powder
- 1 tsp (5 mL) ground cumin
- 1 tsp (5 mL) dried oregano
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) smoked sweet paprika
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) kosher salt
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) black pepper
- 1/2 cup (125 mL) roasted pepitas

Preparation:

1. In bowl, toss almonds, walnut halves and pistachios with oil, chili powder, cumin, oregano, paprika, salt and pepper until well coated.
2. Spread onto parchment paper lined baking sheet and roast in 350 F (180 C) oven for about 15 minutes. Remove from oven and stir in pepitas. Let cool in baking sheet.

EMILY RICHARDS IS A PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA.

Holiday prep

We're here to help
Every Wednesday until Christmas, Metro's Emily Richards will provide you tips to make the holiday whirlwind a bit less stressful. Check out the next edition of Holiday Helper on Wednesday, Dec. 7.

EMILY RICHARDS

This recipe makes about 5 cups (1.25 L).

Drink of the week

Almond Apple-tini

- 1 oz (2 tbsp) almond beverage
- 2 oz (1/4 cup) apple juice
- Splash caramel syrup
- Dash fresh lemon juice
- 1 apple slice

In a martini shaker, combine almond beverage, apple juice, caramel syrup and lemon juice. Shake vigorously and serve in a martini glass. Garnish with an apple slice. ALMONDFRESH.COM

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Studying solo might not be the best option.

BRUCE WALSH
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA
METRO WORLD NEWS IN NEW YORK

For most univeristy students in Canada, winter exam week is just around the corner. For 2011 freshmen, the first time through post-secondary level exams can produce anxiety and frustration. Here to help is test-taking expert Ann Dolin. She is the founder of Educational Connections Inc., a tutoring and test-prep provider in Fairfax County, Va.

What's the most common misconception about studying for exams?
Students often think that just reading equals studying. But studying must be interactive. There must be some form of writing involved to truly cement the information to memory.

Are there different concerns for students with ADHD?
One of the problems is that students will often block off two or three hours to study. That's often not productive. No one can sustain attention for three hours, especially a student with ADHD. When studying is broken down into 30-minute chunks, students are far more productive.

What is the easiest thing students can do to improve their scores on finals?
Study after study has shown that when students summarize their notes after class, they're far more likely to remember the material.

What is the benefit of forming study groups?
Among many positives, it gives students a sense of accountability. You tell yourself, "OK, I'm going to put aside this time to study." And if you don't do it, you get mad at yourself. It rides on your shoulders. But if you have a group, you're more accountable. And you're forced to process the information in another way. If you discuss the material with a group, you're far more likely to remember it.

Is there a good strategy for dealing with anxiety during a test?
Yes. Have a notepad handy during the test to write down all of your anxieties. Studies show that this is the most effective way to alleviate anxiety at test time. You simply have to purge the thoughts and emotions.

WHEN YOU'RE STUCK BETWEEN A ROCK AND A WORKPLACE

When it comes to conflicts of interest, employees will want to consider their company's concerns very carefully

WORKPLACE LAW

DANIEL LUBLIN
DAN@CANADAEMPLOYMENTLAWYER.COM
TWITTER: @DANLUBLIN

Shortly after obtaining her real estate license, Marilyn Patterson found herself in a pickle. Patterson, a customer service supervisor for the Bank of Nova Scotia in Pitt Meadows, B.C., was summoned to a meeting and told that her work as a realtor may conflict with her employment at the bank.

Patterson saw matters differently. She had performed other part-time work outside of the bank and without any objection., and other employees had second or third jobs, which the bank did not oppose.

When it came to her work as a part-time realtor, however, the bank decided to take a stand, arguing that by recommending financial services and products at the bank, Patterson could be in a "potential" conflict with her work in real estate. Patterson was told to abandon her work as a realtor otherwise she would be fired.

But Patterson was defiant, refusing to consider searching for another non-conflict position at the bank and refusing to resign. Therefore, the Bank felt it had cause to terminate her and it did, without any severance. Patterson was not about to go quietly, suing the bank and claiming that its ultimatum was unreasonable.

At a recent hearing, Justice Bryce Dyer agreed with the bank and dismissed Patterson's claim. According to him, Patterson's refusal to abandon her work as a realtor once instructed to do so amounted to disobedience that was serious and not capable of being forgiven. The key to his decision, however, was not that Patterson had performed work as a realtor but that she was told to give it up or lose her job. Since this direction was reasonable, the bank had done nothing wrong.

This case illustrates two of the most prevalent principles in workplace law. First, the judge you happen to draw often makes a difference in the final outcome. Here, Justice Dyer viewed the bank's directive as reasonable but that does not mean that another judge would. Second, Patterson was given a choice to abandon her outside work or keep her job. In my experience, had the bank just terminated her without advancing this option, she would have been cashing settlement cheques by now. **DANIEL LUBLIN IS AN EMPLOYMENT LAWYER WITH WHITTEN & LUBLIN LLP.**

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Say my name, say my name

A recruitment expert offers advice for those hoping to be remembered ◗ Sales and marketing students take note

CHELSEA NEWTON
TALENTEGG.CA

The competition on campus between employers is getting hot as the economy picks up and companies' hiring numbers increase.

A shift is starting, where students will have more power as the number of jobs available increases; however, we aren't quite there yet.

As a student, it is important to play a lead role in choosing your first job out of school and selling yourself to your employer(s) of choice.

Your personal brand — online

Your online personality should mirror how you come across in person.

Ensure that, if your future employer seeks you out on LinkedIn, Twitter, or Facebook, there is consistency in the things you say you are knowledgeable about or roles you played in extra-curricular activities.

"Show you spent some time researching my company online, even talking to past interns or employees, and understanding the culture." CHELSEA NEWTON, DIRECTOR OF TALENT ACQUISITION AT MOSAIC SALES SOLUTIONS

Things like LinkedIn recommendations are very valuable, especially with LinkedIn launching a new student profile option.

Often future employers will perform a social media search on their top candidates — think of this as a reference check.

Make sure that you hide information that future employers don't need to see (e.g., Facebook photos) and remember that social media is permanent.

ISTOCK

▶ Does your authentic persona match the one you see on the screen in front of you?

Your personal brand — in person

For in-person events, network and showcase your personality as well as your interests and skills.

When I interview for entry-level marketing roles, I look more for a strong personal impression than wide sales/marketing experience — I can teach you how to be successful, but I can't teach you how to think critically or have personal credibility.

I want you to highlight your interests, where you think the industry is going, recent highlights at my specific company, and why you believe you fit the company culture.

Show you spent some time researching my company online, even talking to past interns or employees, and understanding our culture.

Don't treat every networking session, interview or online application the same. Most recruiters are very open to telling you the unique parts of their company, so talk to them and ask for a follow-up prep call prior to an interview.

If you don't meet a recruiter on campus, reach out to them via LinkedIn. Recruiters will highlight great candidates' applications if you wow them.

Consider this reach-out like dating — you only have one opportunity to make that perfect impression that might lead to a relationship (or in this case, a fantastic career)!

CHELSEA NEWTON IS THE DIRECTOR OF TALENT ACQUISITION AT MOSAIC SALES SOLUTIONS. HER EXPERTISE IS IN HIRING YOUNG ADULTS AND SHE HAS BUILT CAMPUS RECRUITING PROGRAMS IN OVER 12 COUNTRIES AROUND THE WORLD.

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Starting to pull it together

Schneider excellent again in Canucks net ◆ Kesler putting early struggles behind him

CANUCKS	JACKETS
4	1

RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

▶ Blue Jackets forward Jeff Carter watches as the puck rolls off the handle of Cory Schneider's stick after he made the initial save.

Cory Schneider continued his stellar play, making 47 saves as the Vancouver Canucks beat the Columbus Blue Jackets 4-1 last night.

Schneider, filling in spectacularly for the injured Roberto Luongo, posted his fifth straight victory.

The Canucks (14-9-1) recorded their fifth straight win while the Blue Jackets (6-15-3) suffered their second loss in three outings.

Daniel Sedin, David Booth, Ryan Kesler and Alex Burrows, into an empty net in the final minute, scored for Vancouver. Samuel Pahlsson replied for the Blue Jackets.

The lopsided Vancouver win belied the fact Columbus outshot the Canucks 48-34. The Blue Jackets were blanked on three power-play chances while the Canucks were denied on two.

Vancouver led 2-0 after the first period and a scoreless second.

Schneider won a battle of present and former Canuck backups. Blue Jackets goaltender Curtis Sanford, who spent two seasons with Vancouver, also excelled as he made some stellar stops while recording 30 saves, but caught some bad breaks.

Sanford started his first game in Vancouver since Jan. 13, 2009, when he was a member of the Canucks. He had not played in the NHL since the 2008-09 season before signing with the Blue Jackets in the summer.

4
During his five game winning-streak, Cory Schneider has allowed just four goals, including two shutouts.

The Canucks let him go after he struggled while filling in for an injured Luongo during an extended stretch.

Daniel Sedin opened the scoring 3:19 into the game after Alex Edler's point shot hit his skate, and the Swede was left with a gaping net as Sandford was moving to stop the slapshot that never arrived.

Booth put Vancouver ahead 2-0 at 17:42 of the first, poking the puck past Sanford after a Dan Hamhuis pass from the far corner grazed teammate Chris Higgins and then hit Columbus defenceman Fedor Tyutin's skate. The goal was Booth's second in three games after he struggled following an early-season trade from Florida.

Kesler's goal was his third in four games. He had also struggled following off-season hip surgery that forced him to miss all of training camp and the preseason. A traditionally streaky scorer, Kesler now has points in five straight games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

4 sports

Sports in brief

Major League Soccer's 2012 season will open March 10 with six games, with newcomer Montreal Impact playing its first MLS home game at Olympic Stadium on March 17.

The 19-team league announced the dates of home openers yesterday without identifying opponents. Colorado, D.C. United, Los Angeles, San Jose, Seattle and Vancouver will be at home on opening day, Chivas USA and Dallas will be home on March 11, and Portland will open the following day.

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Motor

The electrical portion of the powertrain consists of the usual 60-kilowatt (80-horsepower) motor that's energized by a lithium-ion battery pack located beneath the cargo floor. That's the same spot as the standard Prius's nickel-metal-hydrid batteries. The advantage of lithium-ion technology is that it's lighter, more energy efficient and holds a charge for longer periods.

As with all Prius models, power is directed to the front wheels via a continuously variable transmission.

Charging

Beyond operating for a modest distance on electric power, the PHV can be replenished in a relatively quick 2.5-to-three hours using 120-volt household current. Toyota provides a 4.5-metre-long cable that plugs into a connection hidden behind a spring-loaded door on the passenger-side rear quarter panel. Buyers have the option of a 240-volt outlet that cuts charging time to 1.5 hours, however they will have to opt for the "Level 2" home charging station available through Toyota dealers.

Fuel efficiency

As for the all-important question of fuel consumption, Toyota claims the PHV earns the equivalent of 1.75 l/100 km on electric power alone (presumably based on typical power costs) and about 3.7 l/100 km when functioning in hybrid mode, compared with 3.7 city and 4.0 highway for a standard Prius.

▶ It looks like any other Prius because it is like any other Prius, just with more battery power for extended electric-only use.

This Prius has a bit more spark

MALCOLM GUNN
DRIVE@METRONEWS.CA
WHEELBASE MEDIA

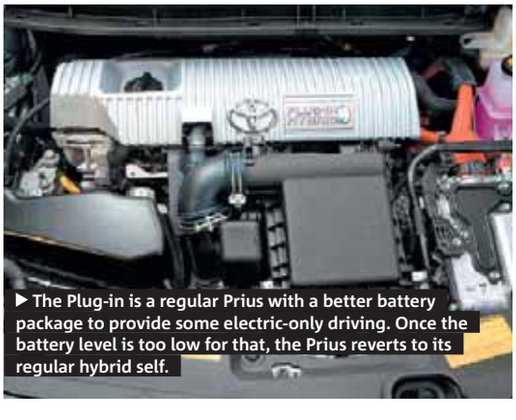
The Prius is the world's most successful gasoline-electric hybrid brand with more than two million copies sold since its 1997 launch. The fuel-frugal Toyota celebrates its 15th anniversary by adding a wagon to the lineup as well as the Plug-in Hybrid, or PHV, which arrives in early 2012.

Although similar to a regular Prius, the PHV has been engineered to offer some advantages of a pure electric vehicle as well as the convenience of a typical hybrid. The result should be significantly improved city fuel economy. For short hops, or gridlocked commuter traffic, the PHV can be driven for up to about 25 kilometres at speeds up to 100 km/h in driver-selectable electric mode.

But when a heavier foot on the accelerator is called for and/or the batteries wear down, the 98-horsepower 1.8-litre gas engine instantly kicks in and both power systems provide the necessary thrust, the same as a regular Prius model. The batteries can also be partially replenished from energy captured through braking.

Determining if the PHV is worth the extra cost will ultimately depend on your particular driving habits, such as distance travelled and your ability to baby the throttle around town. For most people, the popular standard Prius will do just fine, while the PHV takes conserving gas and preserving the environment to a whole new level.

▶ The electric motor has enough power for light acceleration, but when you need max thrust, the gas engine cuts in. The remaining electric range is posted in a display at the top of the centre stack.



▶ The Plug-in is a regular Prius with a better battery package to provide some electric-only driving. Once the battery level is too low for that, the Prius reverts to its regular hybrid self.

Prius Plug-in

What you should know about the 2012 Toyota Prius Plug-in Hybrid:

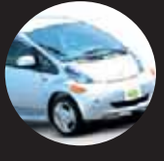
- **Type:** Four-door, front-wheel-drive mid-size sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 1.8-litre DOHC I4 (98) combined with 80-horsepower electric motor.
- **Transmission:** Continuously variable.
- **Market position:** Plug-in Hybrids appear more advanced than current versions and promise significantly better fuel economy. They also won't create the sort of range anxiety that exists with electric-only models.
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 2.0/3.7 (est).

5 drive

By comparison

Nissan Leaf
Base price: $40,000
If you want electric, then just go for it. Downside is long charge time.

Mitsubishi i
Base price: $34,500
Short hops only; Prius is more car that does more and costs more, too.



Chevrolet Volt
Base price: $43,000
Gas generator maintains electric motor's function when batteries run low.

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ISTOCK

▶ As soon as you step foot on a new or used car lot, ask about any fees that will be tacked on to the vehicle's price.

The thing I most like about getting a bill from a utility company is discovering what new and exciting charges they've managed to come up with since my last bill.

I particularly enjoyed first seeing the one called "customer charge" — so ambiguous, so all encompassing, so delightful.

Some retailers in the car industry are equally creative.

Both new and used car dealerships sometimes tack on an Administration Fee or a Documentation Fee. Either way, this is a charge initiated by each specific dealership (new or used) and can run anywhere from $295 to $595 — and beyond.

Most used car dealerships will charge this fee, but not all new-car dealerships. In fact, most automakers try to police this — with mixed results. This creates the situation where dealerships in the same city, selling the same brands, might have different "admin" fee policies.

One sure thing about admin fees — buyers hate them.

Extra fees are one thing, but what infuriates customers even more are when these fees are only brought up during the paperwork stage.

"When you sit down and see that it has been added to your last negotiated price, you can always step back from the table," says Carl Compton, executive director and registrar of OMVIC.

"If you feel it's not worth it, or not comfortable with it, restart the negotiations."

The Ontario Motor Vehicle Industry Council (OMVIC) is the entity that enforces Ontario's Motor Vehicle Dealers Act. Each province has its own council and respective "dealers act."

Compton notes that the council is often asked to weigh in on the legitimacy of these admin or documentation fees.

"The only thing we've been able to say is that they are almost a tradition in the industry, for dealers to charge customers for some of the overhead fees they have to deal with. You, as a consumer, should expect that it would probably be tacked on. There is nothing mandatory about it… There is nothing illegal about charging admin fees, but there is nothing from preventing you from negotiating them out as well."

British Columbia, Alberta, Ontario and Quebec all have legislation that requires dealers and/or dealer groups to disclose any mandatory fees — including admin fees — in their advertised prices.

So the take-away here, is to be aware of them right from the get go.

As soon as you step foot on a new or used car lot, ask about any fees that will be tacked on to the vehicle's price.

Don't find out about them late in the car buying stage, when you're already emotionally attached to the vehicle you want to buy, and/or so emotionally drained by the buying process you'll pay that extra bit, just to make it stop.

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* Program in effect from October 1, 2011 to January 3, 2012 (the "Program Period") To qualify, customer must turn in a 2005 model year or older vehicle that is in running condition (able to start and move and without missing parts) and has been properly registered/plated or insured for the last 3 months (the "Criteria"). Eligible customers will receive [$500]/[$1,000]/[$2,500]/[$3,000] towards the purchase or lease of a new 2011/2012 Ford [Fiesta (excluding S), Focus (excluding S)]/[Fusion (excluding SE), Taurus (excluding SE), Mustang (excluding Value Leader), Escape (excluding XLT I4 Manual), Transit Connect (excluding EV), Ranger (excluding Regular Cab 4x2 XL), Edge (excluding SE), Flex (excluding SE), Explorer (excluding base)]/[F-150 (excluding Regular Cab 4x2 XL), Expedition, E-Series]/[F250-550] – all Raptor, GT500, BOSS302, and Medium Truck models excluded (each an "Eligible Vehicle"). Taxes payable before Rebate amount is deducted. To qualify: (i) customer must, at the time of the Eligible Vehicle sale, provide the Dealer with (a)sufficient proof of Criteria, and (b) signed original ownership transferring customer vehicle to the Authorized Recycler; and (ii) Eligible Vehicle must be purchased, leased, or factory ordered during the Program Period. Offer only available to residents of Canada and payable in Canadian dollars. Offer is transferable to persons domiciled with the owner of the recycled vehicle. Offer can be used in conjunction with most retail consumer offers made available by Ford at either the time of factory order or delivery, but not both. Offer not available on any vehicle receiving CPA, GPC, or Daily Rental Rebates and the Commercial Fleet Rebate Program (CFIP). Limited time offer, see dealer for details or call the Ford Customer Relationship Centre at 1-800-565-3673. ©2011 Ford Motor Company of Canada, Limited. All rights reserved.

China's rich have a rich taste for cars

China's superrich want supercars.

That's what the makers of world's most exotic and expensive sports cars are hoping as they gather in Macau recently for the first Asian edition of Monaco's annual Top Marques show that began eight years ago.

The supercar companies are chasing growth in China, which is churning out scores of new millionaires each year and is home to the world's biggest auto market.

271 China's billionaire ranks, boosted by the country's fast-growing economy, swelled to 271 in 2011, 82 more than last year.

Ferraris and Lamborghinis sat alongside rare and beautiful automotive works of art from lesser known marques like Italy's Pagani, West Richland, Wash.-based SSC and Sweden's Koenigsegg. They drew admiring looks from wealthy auto enthusiasts from China and other Asian countries.

Sales staff were hoping to sign deals with some of the 20,000 expected visitors.

One of them was Steve Chen, who built his fortune in China with a motivational speaking business.

He was admiring the Pagani Huayra, a $1.1-million street rocket sheathed in carbon fibre and titanium with gull wing doors and a V-12 engine churning out 700 horsepower.

Chen was thinking of buying a Pagani or a Bugatti Veyron Grand Sport to add to his collection of 15 to 16 high-end cars, which he divides between his bases in Taiwan and Shanghai.

"I go to a lot of auto shows in China. I've loved cars since I was a kid and I have been collecting many different car brands," said Chen, who opened his leather satchel to reveal keys for a Ferrari, a Lamborghini and a Rolls-Royce.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

VINCENT YU/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ A Pagani Huayra is pictured at the Macau Supercar Show.

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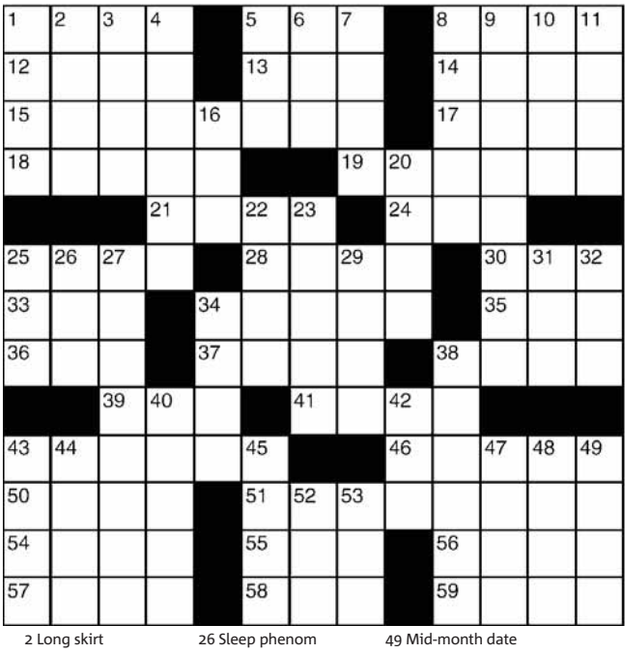
Crossword



Across

1 Mosque bigwig
5 Scale member
8 Equipment
12 Hardy cabbage
13 Commotion
14 World's fair
15 Went boom
17 Newspaper page
18 Supermarket section
19 Undergo without yielding
21 Exam format
24 Still, in verse
25 Make tea
28 Took to the skies
30 Festive
33 Actor Harrison
34 Animal stomachs
35 Away from WSW
36 Pump up the volume
37 Base runner's goal
38 Tosses in
39 Historic period
41 Venomous vipers
43 What to call an English nobleman
46 Puppeteer Lewis
50 Norway's capital
51 Atoned for
54 Coaster
55 Central
56 Fashion
57 Danson and Nugent
58 Eggs
59 Heroic verse

Down

1 Furniture store chain
2 Long skirt
3 Swiss peaks
4 Laid-back
5 Despondent
6 Rhyming tribute
7 Source of wealth
8 Crystal-lined rock
9 Obliterated
10 Mimic
11 Took the bus
16 "— the ramparts ..."
20 Information
22 Frizzy coiffure
23 Camel's cousin
25 Bikini half
26 Sleep phenom
27 Kicked out of school
29 Rams fans?
31 Moreover
32 "Certainly"
34 Burn somewhat
38 Fats Domino's "Ain't That —"
40 Crucifixes
42 Omega preceder
43 Lion's share
44 Capri, for one
45 Showroom sample
47 On
48 Start over
49 Mid-month date
52 Louis —
53 BlackBerry, for ex.

▶ Yesterday's answer

E	G	A	D		S	I	C		N	A	P	E
T	O	R	I		N	I	H		E	L	U	L
C	O	C	K	T	A	I	L		P	O	R	K
			D	I	P		O	C	H	E	R	S
T	R	A	I	T		T	R	E	E			
H	A	N	K		T	A	I	L	W	I	N	D
A	N	O		B	R	U	N	T		R	O	E
W	I	N	D	P	I	P	E		N	I	N	E
			R	O	U	E		A	E	S	O	P
E	S	T	E	E	M		O	W	E			
L	I	R	A		P	I	P	E	D	O	W	N
S	L	I	M		H	O	E		L	U	A	U
E	L	M	S		S	U	N		E	R	S	T

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

Today's horoscope

♈ Aries March 21-April 20 You will be focusing on mundane matters such as how to pay the bills and make ends meet today.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21 Don't let others infect you with their doom and gloom attitude. You know that misery loves company.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21 If you don't want to get in the bad books of people you live and work with, don't second guess them.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22 If something that usually goes right for you starts going wrong today, it's a sign you need to think again.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23 With mind planet Mercury currently moving retrograde, you must make sure you've got your facts straight.

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22 Having second thoughts about something in which you're involved? It would be a mistake to make changes.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23 What people say and what they mean will be two very different things today. It pays to be suspicious.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22 You may be at a loss to explain why certain things are happening, but don't make too big a deal of it.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21 The more someone complains about what you are doing, the more you will do it.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20 If you're the kind of Capricorn who learns from your mistakes, you will learn a lot over the next 24 hours.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18 You will have a hard time convincing people today. Live and let live.

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20. The more people make an issue of something that doesn't bother you, the more necessary it is to distance yourself. SALLY BROMPTON

Sudoku

	7		3			5	8	
6				8		1		2
8				7				
	1	3			8		9	
				1				
	8		5			4	1	
				5				4
2		7		3				1
	6	8			9		5	

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

1	8	2	5	4	6	3	9	7
6	3	9	8	7	1	5	4	2
4	7	5	2	9	3	1	8	6
9	2	3	1	5	8	7	6	4
5	6	7	3	2	4	8	1	9
8	4	1	9	6	7	2	5	3
3	9	6	7	1	5	4	2	8
7	5	4	6	8	2	9	3	1
2	1	8	4	3	9	6	7	5

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, at metronews.ca/kiss.

To BH,
Hi Honey, 24 days and counting before you are here with me. I am so looking forward to seeing you, holding you and kissing you. All I want for Christmas is you.....Love you more xxxxxxx
MPPP

Propellor
We only every see each other briefly, maybe once a week. But your sweet smile sustains me until the next time. I wonder if you're single? I hope so, as I'm determined to get to know the person behind that beautiful face.
GROWLER

Hey Lady
the longest of nights, just thinking of your soft skin, and your fiery red hair.
MISTER

Today 7°/0° Sunny
Thursday 4°/1° Partly cloudy
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
©The Weather Network 2011

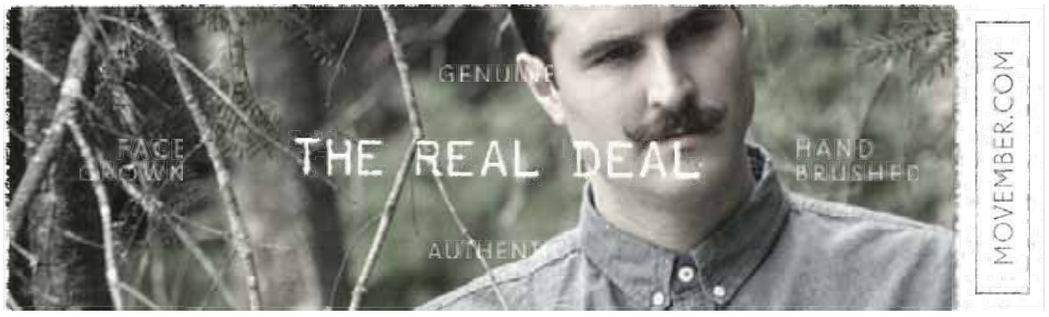
HEIKKI SAUKKOMAA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Caption contest

RAJESH KUMAR SINGH/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WIN! **You write it!**

Write a funny caption for the image above and send it to play@metronews.ca — the winning caption will be published in tomorrow's Metro.



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THE BEST-SELLING PASSENGER CAR BRAND IN CANADA.[1]

THE **2012** MODELS ARE HERE | **0%** FINANCING FOR UP TO **84** MONTHS

5 REASONS WHY HYUNDAI IS THE BEST-SELLING PASSENGER CAR BRAND IN CANADA.

Limited model shown

1 SAFETY 2012 SONATA

5-STAR SAFETY RATING▲

OWN IT	WITH	AND		
$156† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT	0% FINANCING FOR 72 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT	SONATA GL 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.	HIGHWAY 5.7L/100 KM 50 MPG*

2 FUEL EFFICIENCY 2012 ACCENT

BEST-IN-CLASS FUEL ECONOMY◊

OWN IT	WITH	AND		
$106† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT	2.9% FINANCING FOR 72 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT	ACCENT L 5DR 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.	HIGHWAY 4.9L/100 KM 58 MPG*

AJAC's Best new small car under $21K

GLS model shown

Limited model shown

AJAC's Best new small car over $21K

3 DESIGN 2012 ELANTRA SEDAN

2011 AUTOPACIFIC BEST COMPACT CAR‡

OWN IT	WITH	AND		
$122† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT	2.9% FINANCING FOR 72 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT	ELANTRA L 6-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.	HIGHWAY 4.9L/100 KM 58 MPG*

4 SPACIOUS 2012 ELANTRA TOURING

SPIRIT AND PRACTICALITY, IN PERFECT BALANCE.

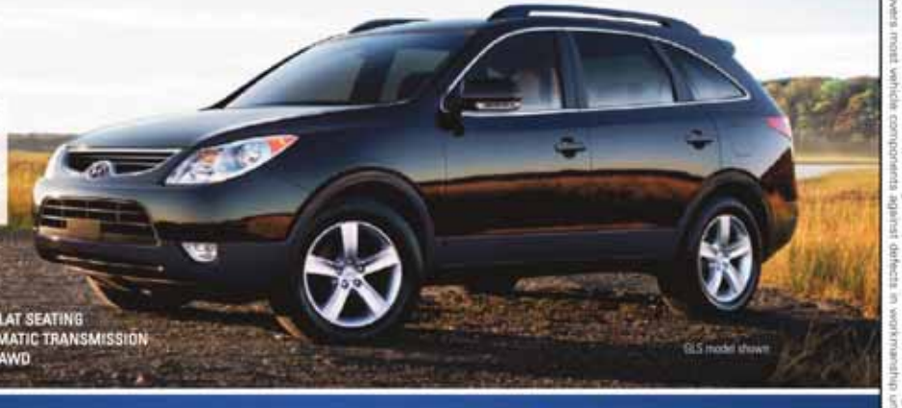
OWN IT	WITH	AND		
$134† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT	0% FINANCING FOR 60 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT	ELANTRA TOURING L 5-SPEED. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.	HIGHWAY 6.4L/100 KM 43 MPG*

GLS model shown

5 VERSATILE 2012 VERACRUZ

"IT'S A SEVEN-SEATER, MID-SIZE SUV WITH SERIOUS CARGO AND PEOPLE-CARRYING CAPACITY." — *THE GLOBE AND MAIL*

OWN IT	WITH	AND		
$194† BI-WEEKLY PAYMENT	0% FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT	VERACRUZ GL FWD. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.	HIGHWAY 8.5L/100 KM 33 MPG*



GLS model shown

7 PASSENGER SEATING

- SPACIOUS, UPSCALE INTERIOR WITH THIRD ROW FOLD-FLAT SEATING
- 6 STANDARD AIRBAGS • 3.8L V6 ENGINE • 6-SPEED AUTOMATIC TRANSMISSION
- BLUETOOTH® HANDS FREE PHONE SYSTEM • AVAILABLE AWD

5 YEAR WARRANTY 100,000 KM

5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Emission Warranty

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13171 Smallwood Place
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GRADUATE REBATE PROGRAM

*The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. †Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2012 Sonata GL 6-Speed/2012 Accent L 5Dr 6-Speed/2012 Elantra L 6-Speed/2012 Elantra Touring L 5-Speed/2012 Veracruz GL FWD with an annual finance rate of 0%/2.9%/2.9%/0%/0% for 72/72/72/60/84 months. Bi-weekly payment is $156/$106/$122/$134/$194. No down payment is required. Cost of Borrowing is $0/$1,360/$1,560/$0/$0. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,565/$1,495/$1,495/$1,495/$1,760. Registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, PDI, dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Financing example: 2012 Elantra L 6-speed for $17,344 at 2.9% per annum equals $122 bi-weekly for 72 months for a total obligation of $18,906. Cash price is $17,344. Cost of Borrowing is $1,562. Example price excludes Delivery and Destination of $1,495. Registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Offer economy comparison based on combined fuel consumption rating for the 2012 Accent 5Dr 6-Speed Manual (4.9L/100km). manufacturer's testing and 2011 AUAMC combined fuel consumption ratings for the sub-compact vehicle class. ‡AutoPacific Vehicle Satisfaction Award for Best Compact Car awarded to the 2011 Elantra Sedan. ▼Fuel consumption for 2012 Sonata GL 6-Speed (HWY 5.7L/100KM; City 8.7L/100KM)/2012 Accent L 5Dr 6-Speed (HWY 4.9L/100KM; City 6.7L/100KM)/2012 Elantra L 6-Speed manual (HWY 4.9L/100KM; City 6.8L/100KM)/2012 Elantra Touring L 5-Speed (HWY 6.4L/100km; City 8.5L/100km)/2012 Veracruz GL FWD (HWY 8.5L/100KM; City 12.7L/100KM) are based on Manufacturer's testing. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. ◆Offers available for a limited time and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ▲Based on the September 2011 AUAMC report. ◊Government 5-Star Safety Ratings are part of the U.S. National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA's) New Car Assessment Program (www.SaferCar.gov). ASee your dealer for eligible vehicles and full details of the Graduate Rebate Program. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.